

## Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FAA-00 SCA-01 EB-07 SY-05 DHA-02

OPR-02 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

DOT-00 IO-13 /110 W

----- 115080

R 131127Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4589

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

UNCLAS ANKARA 6237

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, TU

SUBJECT: GOT LEGAL HANDLING OF ISTANBUL AIRPORT TERRORISTS

REF: ISTANBUL 3109

1. IN A STATEMENT TO ANATOLIAN NEWS AGENCY AUGUST 12, BAKIRKOY PROSECUTOR NEJAT ULGEN, COMMENTING ON THE ISTANBUL AIRPORT TERRORIST ATTACK, SAID: "THIS (ATTACK), AS A TERRORIST INCIDENT, OCCURRED IN TURKEY AND INVOLVES THE CRIMINAL LAWS TO WHICH THE CRIME OF MANSLAUGHTER ARE SUBJECT IN TURKEY. IN OUR VIEW, THERE WAS NO OBJECTIVE OR EFFORT TO HIJACK AN AIRPLANE." AFTER NOTING THAT IN HIS OPINION THE CRIME COMMITTED COVERED UNDER ARTICLE 450 OF THE TURKISH CRIMINAL CODE, HE OBSERVED THAT THIS ARTICLE REQUIRED THE DEATH PENALTY. THE LATTER STATEMENT WAS PROMINENTLY HEADLINED IN SEVERAL DAILIES AUGUST 13.

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2. PRIMIN DEMIREL, SPEAKING BRIEFLY WITH REPORTERS

FOLLOWING A CABINET MEETING AUGUST 12, WAS ASKED WHETHER THE TERRORISTS WOULD BE EXTRADITED. HE RESPONDED: "IN TURKEY THERE IS A STATE OF LAW. THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW WILL BE CARRIED OUT". IN RESPONSE TO A SIMILAR QUESTION FROM JOURNALISTS, INTERIOR MINISTER ASILTURK IN A SEPARATE ENCOUNTER WITH THE PRESS SAID: "IF ONE OF THE COUNTRIES WHICH HAS AN EXTRADITION AGREEMENT WITH TURKEY SO REQUESTS, I THINK THE EXTRADITION OF THE TERRORISTS WOULD BE POSSIBLE."

3. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ISSUED A STATEMENT AUGUST 12 SAYING THAT IT HAD RECEIVED REPORTS ABOUT THE TERRORIST ATTACK AND "RECEIVED THE DEPLORABLE INCIDENT WITH SORROW." THE COUNCIL ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR "THE SENSE OF DUTY MANIFESTED BY OUR SECURITY FORCES IN EXERTING GREAT EFFORT TO GET THE INCIDENT UNDER CONTROL."

4. THE TERRORIST ATTACK RECEIVED MAJOR PRESS PLAY AUGUST 12 AND 13. EVEN THE NORMALLY RESTRAINED MILLIYET COVERED ITS FRONT PAGE AUG 13 WITH COLOR PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE DEAD AND WOUNDED AT THE AIRPORT. APART FROM SENSATIONALISM, THE TONE OF PRESS COVERAGE APPEARS TO BE ONE OF REVULSION FOR THE TERRORIST ACTIONS.  
MACOMBER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARAMILITARY FORCES, TERRORISTS, AIRPORTS  
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**TAGS:** PINS, ASEC, TU  
**To:** STATE  
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